

RESOLUTION NO. 20190411-020

WHEREAS, child care costs account for a significant portion of a family's budget and the Austin City Council continues to address barriers that have been identified as the biggest cost drivers of opening, expanding and/or operating these facilities; and

WHEREAS, a report by the think tank The Center for American Progress mapped child care deserts across the country and brought national attention to child care deserts in Austin, including in some areas of our city where the largest populations of children from low income families live, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Austin Strategic Direction 2023 Plan, under the priority of Economic Opportunity and Affordability, identifies the burden of child care costs; and

WHEREAS, the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan identifies the need to "improve access to quality child care services near homes and workplaces;" and

WHEREAS, City Council Resolution No. 20170928-057 directed the compilation of information on twelve separate deliverables related to community data, equity gaps, and potential policies and resources that could provide opportunities to expand existing affordable high quality child care services and access to Pre- K in the City of Austin; and

WHEREAS, Austin Public Health (APH) was the lead department assigned and convened and facilitated a Quality Child Care & Pre-K3 Resolution Working Group (Working Group) as well as coordinated with other City Departments and community stakeholders to gather community wide data and input on policy, practices, and funding priorities to help develop the information responsive to the requests in the City Council Resolution 20170928-057; and

WHEREAS, the High Quality Child Care and Pre-K3 Report, in response to Council Resolution No. 20170928-057, provides extensive community data and the Working Group developed a list of items for Council consideration; and

WHEREAS, some of the Working Group recommendations have already been implemented either through a council resolution, budget items at time of Budget readings and staff initiated items; and

WHEREAS, there are still viable recommendations of the Working Group that must be implemented to address the need for more high quality affordable childcare access for Austin families; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The Council directs the City Manager to provide a report that provides a timeline for the remaining recommendations from the High Quality Child Care and

Pre-K3 Report. The report should include any potential barriers that limit the implementation of the policy and recommendation and identify any budgetary actions that may be necessary to support implementation. Any necessary budgetary actions will take place during the budget adoption process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

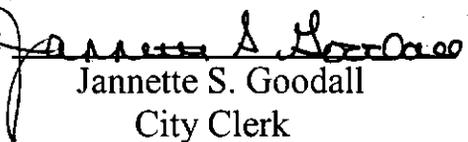
The Council further directs the City Manager to implement any policies from the report where a policy can be implemented without Council action.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The Council directs the City Manager to present the feasibility report for full Council consideration on the above topics by June 9, 2019.

ADOPTED: April 11, 2019

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk